

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, 1876, with transcript

Letter from Miss Mabel C. Hubbard to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. (1876?) My dear Alec:

Tomorrow is your birthday, and though it is doubtful if this will reach you in time, I send you most loving greetings and wish you many happy returns of the day. I only wish you were here, but since you probably cannot be here I am glad you are enjoying yourself so much and making such a favorable impression as Papa says you are. I only hope you are very careful to keep yourself looking neat and clean, I should be much mortified to think you were not.

This has been such an important year to us both, and the one now opening seems likely to be an equally important one, anyway let us determine that it shall be a year of constant endeavour to conquer our besetting sin of procrastination. I am suffering for it now in a great press of work which makes every moment precious.

I was very glad to hear things were looking so much brighter for you. I was not surprised as I really did not see any reason to be discouraged.

Do you know why it is that since the first day no letters have come to me for you? I am getting troubled as I thought you had such a large correspondence. Mamma has gone into Boston today though and has promised to inquire. I wonder where you are now. If you must give up today's lecture I don't see why you should not stay until Saturday night or Monday morning early. I am so glad you have had this little change, you will now be better able to set to your every day work in earnest.

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Goodbye now dear Alec, I am tired and in a hurry so please excuse this, and let a great deal of love make up for it.

Lovingly, Mabel. Love to Grandma, Grandpa, Sister and Auntie Ber and Bobby